

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06365 091912Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----091917Z 100275 /43/44

O R 091020Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7157
AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6365

EXDIS

WARSAW FOR AMBASSADOR TOON

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR GARBLED THROUGHOUT TEXT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UR, US
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK VLADIMIR SLEPAK REFUSED ENTRY TO EMBOFF'S
FLAT

REF: (A) MOSCOW 4819, (B) 76 MOSCOW 2671

1. REFUSENIK VLADIMIR SLEPAK, HIS WIFE, SON AND LATTER'S AMERICAN FIANCEE WERE INVITED TO DINNER MAY 6 AT HOME OF EMBOFF (PRESEL). WHEN OTHER GUESTS ARRIVED THEY OBSERVED THAT INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL SINGLE MILITIAMAN ON DUTY, THERE WERE THREE, WHILE TWO CARS WERE PARKED NEAR MILITIA SHACK. SLEPAK AND FAMILY WERE PICKED UP WELL AWAY FROM PRESEL'S RESIDENCE BY SECOND EMBOFF (SMITH) IN LATTER'S CAR. ALL GOT INTO COURTYARD WITHOUT INCIDENT BUT AS THEY GOT OUT OF THE CAR, THE POLICEMEN RAN AFTER THEM. ALL WERE ABLE TO GET INTO ENTRY HALL OF APARTMENT BUILDING, BUT POLICE PUSHED PAST SMITH AND HAULED SLEPAK AND HIS SON OUT. THE TWO WOMEN WERE ABLE TO GO TO PRESEL'S FLAT.

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2. SMITH ACCOMPANIED THE SLEPAKS AND THEIR MILITIA ESCORT OUTSIDE PROTESTING THE ACTION OF THE POLICE. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE SLEPAKS WERE INVITED GUESTS AND SHOWED HIS DIPLOMATIC CARD BUT TO NO AVAIL. MILITIAMAN SAID THAT THE SLEPAKS COULD BE RECEIVED AT THE EMBASSY IF THEY WISHED. SMITH REMAINED WITH THE SLEPAKS AND POLICE UNTIL THE POLICE TOLD THE SLEPAKS TO LEAVE THE VICINITY. NEITHER WAS

ARRESTED AND BOTH REACHED HOME SAFELY. SMITH TOOK THE TWO LADIES TO THE SLEPAK'S APARTMENT IN HIS CAR.

3. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE INCIDENT WITH ANDREY AMALRIK IN FEBRUARY 1976 (REF B) THAT SOVIET GUESTS OF PRESEL HAVE ENCOUNTERED ANY DIFFICULTY IN CONNECTION WITH INVITATIONS TO HIS APARTMENT. IT IS, HOWEVER, THE SECOND TIME WITHIN A MONTH THAT A MEMBER OF THE SLEPAK FAMILY HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESIDENCE OF AN EMBASSY OFFICER (REF A DESCRIBES OTHER INCIDENT). IN BOTH CASES THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAD CLEARLY BEEN TIPPED OFF IN ADVANCE AND WERE WAITING FOR THE SLEPAKS.

4. PRESS GUIDANCE. SINCE SLEPAK KNOWS NEARLY ALL THE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ACCREDITED HERE AND HIS SON'S FIANCEE IS NANNY TO AN AMERICAN FAMILY, WE ASSUME THAT THE WESTERN PRESS WILL PICK UP THE STORY. IF ASKED, WE INTEND TO CONFIRM THE FACT THAT THE SLEPAKS WERE AGAIN REFUSED ENTRY TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER'S FLAT.
MATLOCK

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